Stormwater Action Monitoring Quarterly Report Jan 1 through March 31, 2025

SAM accomplishments and key decisions reported for the quarter

- Four new contracts were signed or extended! Three will continue long-term receiving water monitoring under the Status & Trends programs for another five years. The fourth contract started a new effectiveness study on street sweeping.

SAM budget for the previous quarter and available for the next quarter

Table 1 shows the SAM budget for each account. Revenue is expected in August each year, except in years where the municipal stormwater permits are reissued when revenue is expected in December. A new revenue cycle will start in August from 2025 thru 2030 for permits issued in 2024. The Stormwater Work Group's Pooled Resources Oversight Committee (PRO-C) approves encumbrances of SAM funds. Encumbrances in excess of projected revenues are due to projects that span multiple years. Indirect charges are applied quarterly to the individual accounts while SAM management staff costs are applied proportional to the size of the fund at the end of each fiscal year.

Reported and projected income and expenditures	**Puget Sound status and trends** Jan-Mar 2025	**Lower Columbia status and trends** Jan-Mar 2025	**Effectiveness studies** Jan-Mar 2025	**Source ID projects** Jan-Mar 2025	**Total** Jan-Mar 2025
Balance at start of quarter	2,628,686.00	190,082.00	6,333,920.00	21,023.00	9,173,710.97
Revenues				-	
Expenditures (Contract costs)	47,173.68	73,028.21	367,267.23	-	543,018.08
Administrative Costs (Ecology's expenses)	19,053.29	3,544.02	32,940.53		55,549.00
Balance at end of quarter	2,562,459.00	113,443.00	5,933,768.00		8,630,692.89
Encumbrances	4,418,654.00	900,494.00	3,491,270.00	-	8,810,418.00

Note: Total administrative costs are distributed at 34.3% for Puget Sound, 59.2% for Effective Studies and 6.38% for Lower Columbia as per established 2019-2024 distributions.

SAM contracting activities

All contract scopes of work reviewed and approved by the PRO-C and Ecology are posted online. The following contract activities occurred this quarter:

- A new contract was signed with Seattle Public Utilities for monitoring the potential for street sweeping to reduce the amount of tire wear pollutants, including 6PPD-quinone (6PPDQ), on the roadway. This project encumbers $877,004 from the SAM Effectiveness Studies account.

- A new contract was signed with Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to continue monitoring the Puget Sound nearshore using caged mussels. This effort is expected to cost $1,308,821 over the next 5 years.
- A new contract was signed with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to continue stream monitoring in small streams of Puget Sound lowlands. This effort is expected to cost $2,853,500 over the next five years
- An existing contract with Clark County was extended to continue stream monitoring in small urban streams of the Lower Columbia River Basin. This work encumbers an additional $879,402 for the next five years.
- Washington State University was granted a no-cost time extension on their study evaluating the longevity of bioretention media to reduce toxicity from urban stormwater. The study will now continue until June 2025.

SAM summary by topic

Communications

Routine deliverable and contracting updates to SAM website.

Receiving water projects

SAM monitors the impacts of stormwater runoff in urban and urbanizing areas in the Western Washington small streams and nearshore environments. There are two active stormwater receiving water monitoring studies in Puget Sound region and one stream monitoring study in Lower Columbia region. Key updates:

- The USGS, Clark County, and WDFW signed new agreements with Ecology for 5 more years of stream and nearshore monitoring. The new agreements follow the same monitoring study design from the previous permit cycle.

Effectiveness studies

SAM studies determine the effectiveness of operational or structural BMPs, maintenance and management actions, and outreach efforts to reduce stormwater runoff and transport of pollutants to receiving waters. There are 6 active effectiveness studies at the end of this quarter (Table 2). Milestones include but are not limited to:

- Delays in lab analysis is delaying reporting on the longevity of bioretention to reduce toxicity. WSU expects to complete the final data analysis and report in Summer 2025. A no-cost time extension on the contract was signed in January.
- WSU and Evergreen State College researchers published their phase 2 findings on water budgets of small, individual street trees. They presented the findings to SWG in February. Read the full report.
- Bellevue completed their analysis and recommendation of BMP maintenance standards. They will present the findings to SWG in May. Read the 2-page fact sheet and full report.
- King County, in collaboration with Whatcom County, continued to collect storm samples to test the potential for High Performance Bioretention Soil Media (HPBSM) to reduce 6PPD-quinone, PFAS, and aquatic toxicity in stormwater. They presented the study design and preliminary findings at March's NEBC conference.
- Tacoma drafted a Quality Assurance Project Plan for the new stormwater characterization effort. Stormwater sampling is expected to begin in May.
- The newest study with Seattle Public Utilities for monitoring the potential for street sweeping to reduce the amount of tire wear pollutants, including 6PPD-quinone, on the roadway got started this quarter.

Source Identification Projects

SAM projects on source control and source identification will improve illicit discharge detection and adapt our management solutions for pollutant sources in stormwater runoff. There are no active source control and source identification projects at this time.

SAM contract deliverable activity

Table 2: SAM's contracts, end dates, and deliverable activity.

Receiving water agreements	Deliverables approved Q1 2025	Anticipated deliverables Q2 2025
Marine mussels – WDFW	New contract to continue monitoring, upload data to EIM, Fact sheet for 2020-21	Draft report for 2022-23, QAPP amendment
Puget small streams – USGS, Manchester lab, Rhithron lab	New contract to continue monitoring, Quarterly Progress Memo, WY 2023 & 2024 Data Upload to EIM, Final sampling sites for WY25	Quarterly Progress Memo, Final 2021, 2022, 2023 reports
Lower Columbia urban streams -Clark County	Amendment to continue monitoring, Upload WY 2024 data	Semi-annual progress report
Source ID Contracts	**Deliverables approved Q1 2025**	**Anticipated deliverables Q2 2025**
No active projects		
Effectiveness study contracts	**Deliverables approved Q1 2025**	**Anticipated deliverables Q2 2025**
Paired watershed study – City of Redmond (Sept 2025)	WY2023 final report, Street sweeping data, WY2024 data upload	Draft Trend analysis report, Draft WY2024 report, Draft street sweeping study report
Longevity of bioretention toxicity prevention - WSU Puyallup (June 2025)	None expected	Draft and final report, Draft fact sheet
Hydrologic benefits of individual trees - WDNR (Dec 2024)	SWG presentation	Project closed
BMP maintenance condition - City of Bellevue (Feb 2025)	TAC meeting notes, Draft and final pilot data memo, Draft and final white paper, Local presentation, Draft SAM fact sheet	SWG presentation, Project closed
Bioretention effectiveness for 6PPD and PFAS – King County (Nov 2025)	Semi-annual progress report	None expected
Characterization of Stormwater Transport of CECs – City of Tacoma (Dec 2025)	Progress report, Draft QAPP	GIS Analysis, Equipment purchases, Draft & final literature review, Existing CEC data database, Final QAPP, Site installation documentation, Internal technical dashboard

Measuring Street Sweeping 6PPDQ Whole Environment Load Reductions – Seattle Public Utilities (Dec 2028)	Project started	QAPP and Lab Waiver Request